



#1-5-03
PATENT APPLICATION

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re the Application of

Hiroshi KATSURABAYASHI et al.

Group Art Unit: 3623

Application No.: 09/386,339

Examiner: Eric T. Shaffer

Filed: August 31, 1999

Docket No.: 104122

For: OPTIMUM OPERATOR SELECTION SUPPORT SYSTEM

REQUEST FOR RECONSIDERATION

Director of the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office
Washington, D.C. 20231

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GROUP 3600

Sir:

In reply to the February 19, 2003 Office Action, reconsideration of the rejection is respectfully requested in light of the following remarks.

REMARKS

Claims 1-27 are pending in the application.

Applicants gratefully acknowledge the courtesy extended to Mr. Michael Britton and Ms. Jackie Spong during the April 22, 2003, personal interview. The substance of the interview is incorporated into the following Remarks.

The Office Action rejects claims 1-13, 15-20, 22 and 24-27 Under 35 USC §102(e) over Brooks et al. (U.S. Patent No. 5,825,869). This rejection is respectfully traversed.

The Office Action asserts that Brooks discloses each element recited in independent claims 1, 5, 7, 25, 26 and 27. However, as agreed to during the interview, Applicants respectfully submit that Brooks does not disclose:

1) a document feature extraction part that extracts a plurality of documents generated by one operator from said document management part, as recited in claims 1 and 25;